

REMARKS

The application has been amended as needed so as to place it in condition for disposal at the time of the next Official Action.

In the course of this revision, subject headings have been inserted at the appropriate locations throughout the specification in a manner consistent with the preferred guidelines set forth at 37 CFR §1.77 and Section 601 of the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (MPEP).

Responsive to the requirement for restriction, applicant provisionally elects Group I, claims 1-10, drawn to a casing, with traverse.

The requirement is believed to be improper, however, and should not be repeated for the following reasons:

1. The Primary Examiner has relied upon the restriction practice set forth in Chapter 800 of the MPEP in making this requirement.

2. The present application, however, is a national stage application filed under 35 USC §371, and is consequently governed by the unity of invention practice set forth in PCT Rule 13 and 37 CFR §1.499. The Primary Examiner's attention is respectfully directed to Section 1893.03(d).

3. As evidenced by the International Search Report (Form PCT/ISA/210), and the International Preliminary Examination

Report (Form PCT/IPEA/409), the international Examiner searched and examined all of the claims (claims 1-24) during the international phase.

Thus, the examination of claims 1-24 in the present national stage application cannot reasonably be construed to impose an undue burden on the Primary Examiner.

Accordingly, in view of the above remarks, the restriction requirement advanced in the last Official Action, which requirement is based on the restriction practice set forth in Chapter 800 of the MPEP, is believed improper, and should be withdrawn.

An early and favorable action on the merits of all the claims is accordingly earnestly solicited.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. §1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

YOUNG & THOMPSON

Benoit Castel

Benoit Castel, Reg. No. 35,041
745 South 23rd Street
Arlington, VA 22202
Telephone (703) 521-2297
Telefax (703) 685-0573
(703) 979-4709

BC/lrs